



# News in Wound Care

## Events

### #WoundsCanada2022 Limb Preservation Symposium

Thanks to the delegates, speakers, sponsors, scientific planning committee and Chair Ahmed

Kayssi for making our Limb Preservation Symposium a huge success! Despite the many challenges experienced by health-care providers during this current pandemic wave, we were impressed that many participants still turned out to learn, listen and collaborate on May 6.

**97% of respondents agreed that the symposium was excellent!** Our fully virtual conference platform provided innovative ways for participants to network, win prizes

through a trivia quiz and other fun challenges, and review the latest technology and products in the exhibit hall.

We were very pleased to see delegates take advantage of our photo booth to snap their #SaveThe4 pics for #FootHealthAwarenessMonth (more on that in the Awareness and Advocacy on page 6).

Missed a session or feeling the urge for a rewatch? The sessions are now available on-demand on the [conference platform](#) for registrants!

*"Thank you for letting me be part of this. I am amazed at the information, the knowledge and the integration of different disciplines that are part of this."*

*"Thank you for this informative symposium. The moderators did an impeccable job today!"*

*"Well done. I enjoyed the level and scope of research and depth content."*

### "Our Voices, Our Stories" Patient Journey Conference

Our first-ever "Our Voices, Our Stories" Patient Journey Conference took place June 9–10.

Wounds Canada believes centring the voice of the patient is crucial to effecting change in health-care systems and delivering the best possible wound care.

Conference participants heard from patients and care partners as well as health-care providers, while being encouraged to share their own voices and collaborate on the future of wound care and patient advocacy. This unique (and free) two-day learning, outreach and knowledge exchange event was held in partnership with

Idevania Costa, Catherine Phillips and Michelle Spadoni of Lakehead University, and Pilar Camargo-Plazas of Queen's University.

Some of the highlights from the event included:

- Keynote Address on The Power of the Patient's Voice and Stories with Pip Hardy, world-renowned advocate for patient storytelling, and Lana Ray, Lakehead University's inaugural Indigenous Research Chair in Decolonial Futures
- Exploring the Social Determinants of Health Through Art-based Approaches with Pilar Camargo-Plazas



- Four patient story sessions that highlighted the unique perspectives of patients navigating social life while living with their wounds
- Linda Moss' gripping story of advocating to be heard as a care partner for a family member with a pressure injury
- Two sessions focused on the Indigenous experience, with an eye to decolonizing the delivery of wound care
- Highly skilled moderators, who guided the sessions, offered check-ins to discuss emerging themes and encouraged collaboration from participants, as well as leading closing panel discussions at the end of each day

*We gratefully acknowledge the funding support of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC).*

## 2022 National Conference Line-up

The Wounds Canada team is already hard at work on the planning and implementation of two more highly anticipated conferences in 2022:

- Hybrid (virtual and live) National Fall Conference with co-chairs Robyn Evans, Virginie Blanchette and Marlene Varga – October 14–16, 2022
- Virtual Pressure Injury Symposium – November 17, 2022

Head over to our [conference platform](#) to register today!

## Wounds Canada Institute

We continue to establish the Wounds Canada Institute as a trusted deliverer of competency-based accredited education for health-care professionals and other unregulated professionals. Our [SHARP \(Skin Health Advocate and Resource Professional\) Super Program #1](#) covers the full spectrum of skin health and is an excel-

lent educational opportunity for health-care professionals to acquire proficiency in wound prevention and management. The program includes 23 interactive modules, eight synchronous webinars, two robust outcome measures and access to a discussion forum with the program faculty.

We're also proud of our [Programs for Unregulated Care Providers](#), which is designed to meet the learning needs of unregulated care providers, such as personal support workers, health-care aides, home support workers, personal care attendants and even family members caring for a loved one.



### Live Skills Labs

Our popular Wounds Canada Institute skills labs are back! Enhance your wound assessment and treatment skills by participating in the full-day, in-person educational event we have planned for fall 2022: Skills Lab for Local Wound Care (BPWD01S) for completion of Best Practice Approach to Skin Health and Wound Management: Knowledge and Skills (A100NWS) program. It's happening on October 13 at the Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel in Toronto. [Register now](#) to ensure your spot!



## Research

Research is a key pillar of Wounds Canada, and we're pleased to have the opportunity to continue to drive change through three new research projects in 2022:

### How COVID-19 Affected Individuals Living with Pressure Injuries and/or Spinal Cord Injury and Their Care Partners

This [project](#), led by Janet Kuhnke of Cape Breton University, is a joint collaboration between Spinal Cord Ontario and Wounds Canada. The purpose

## Are you a health-care provider who works with individuals living with a pressure injury and/or spinal cord injury?

Please encourage them to participate in our survey about how COVID-19 affected them and their care partners in accessing skin and wound care services.

Click here to participate:

<https://woundscanada.hostedincanadasurveys.ca/793378?lang=en>



of this research is to understand the experiences and learn from three groups:

- Individuals living with a pressure injury
- Individuals living with a pressure injury and a spinal cord injury (SCI)
- Care partners and family members caring for individuals with pressure injuries

### Interprofessional Wound Care Team Competency Framework

Lead investigator Virginie Blanchette, from Université du Québec at Trois-Rivières, has been working with wound care experts who are providing their input into the development of an Interprofessional Wound Care Team Competency Framework based on CanMEDS Roles (e.g., expert, collaborator, communicator, health advocate, leader, professional, scholar).

### Identifying Canadian Research Wound Care Priorities

This project is led by Ahmed Kayssi, vascular surgeon at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre and wound care physician at Women's College Hospital.

## Awareness and Advocacy

At Wounds Canada, we know raising awareness and providing knowledge are the first steps in driving and supporting system-wide and sustainable change. Our mission is to urge governments

across Canada to make wound prevention and management a priority amid the long-term care crisis, health-care provider burnout and multiple waves of the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of this effort we provide a quarterly **government newsletter** to decision makers across the country, which you are encouraged to read as well.

### #FootHealthAwarenessMonth

Thanks to everyone who participated in our **#FootHealthAwareness** campaign during the month of May. The Wounds Canada team put together a **communications toolkit** with everything from suggested social media posts and customized Instagram stickers to downloadable awareness posters and infographics to help board members, volunteers, policy makers, organizations, health-care providers, patients and care partners **#SaveThe4** and **#ActAgainstAmputation**. We were pleased to have a diverse range of participants for our **#SaveThe4** campaign, in which participants were encouraged to take a selfie holding up four fingers to represent the number of amputations (out of every five that occur) that are preventable, and happy to see organizations and individuals from many regions across the country partake in the campaign. See you next year!

### Foot Health Awareness Month Allstars: The Diabetes Care Service at Health Sciences North

The Diabetes Care Service (DCS) at Health Sciences North (HSN) hospital enjoyed bringing attention to Wounds Canada's May **#FootHealthAwarenessMonth** and **#SaveThe4** campaigns all month long.

They kicked off the beginning of May with help from clerical and registration staff, who decorated the







## June: Wound Healing Month

June was Wound Healing Month, and Wounds Canada promoted awareness in tandem with our Patient Journey Program, with a strong emphasis on #PatientAdvocacy and #PatientStories through the sharing of patient story videos we've been compiling all year. We promoted our numerous #WoundHealing resources and arranged for special lighting at Niagara Falls and the CN Tower in Toronto. We wanted to reach the widest audience possible with our message, so why not enlist the help of two of Canada's biggest tourist attractions?

waiting room by displaying #SaveThe4 posters, footprint cut-outs and Wounds Canada's Diabetes, Healthy Feet and You pamphlets. Footprint stickers were created and given to patients and stuck on clinician office doors.

Every week there was something new for the DCS team members to participate in. Mondays began with Foot Tips or Tricks the DCS team could share with patients and colleagues. Four Foot Contests (four out of the five weeks in May) were held on Tuesdays. The Foot Contests included games such as guessing how many sour blue raspberry Big Foot candies there were from sweet red raspberry Big Foot candies in a jar. The winner, Jennifer Hancock, RN and Diabetes Educator, found a second way the candies could be used: to treat patients having a hypoglycemic event. Other games included emails where the participants had to email the best or most correct response to questions like, "What is a chiropodist's favourite flower, game or food?" Each Foot Contest went

until Thursday when the answers were revealed. The winners received foot-, feet- or toe-inspired prizes such as a bottle of wine with a logo of a foot on it, elastic laces or a foot care/pedicure kit. Deanna Falvo, DCh, provided a "foot funny" or "corny" joke every Wednesday. Fridays were designated as Foot Fact Fridays.

On Tuesday May 10, the DCS team raised a shoe, stood on one leg, displayed their toes or flashed their four fingers for a photo. The team's goal was to bring awareness to the whole HSN organization. The team was successful when on Friday May 20, Communications posted their efforts on HSN's Instagram, Facebook page and home page.

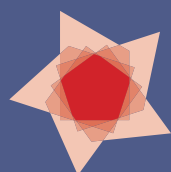
Management got into the foot action and supported four DCS team members in attending the Diabetes, Healthy Feet and You Train the Trainer program on May 24 and 25. To wrap up the month on May 31, the DCS team rewarded themselves by going out for mojitos (Get it? Mo-he-toes).

Way to go, DCS team and HSN, for your efforts to save four out of the five preventable diabetic limb amputations in May Foot Health Awareness Month!

## Scholarships and Grants

Our scholarship and grant programs contribute to advancing research in the field of wound care and prevention while also helping build a strong and vibrant wound care community in Canada. We're pleased to be currently accepting research grant

Please donate to the **Wounds Canada Foundation** if you are able. Through your generous donation, the Wounds Canada Foundation will be able to continue to offer grants and scholarships as well as help bring prevention and awareness of wounds to the forefront of care.



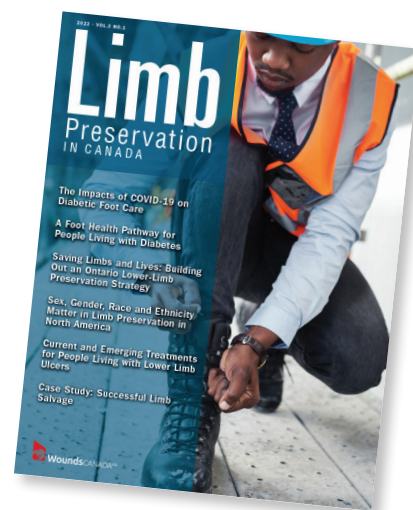
**Wounds**CANADA  
Foundation

applications for the Wounds Canada Open Grant until August 15, 2022. We are accepting applications for the following scholarships until August 15, 2022:


- SHARP (SUPER Program #1) Scholarship
- Scholarship for Unregulated Care Providers

## New Issue of *Limb Preservation in Canada* Out Now

Our new issue of *Limb Preservation in Canada* contains a range of informative and well-researched articles from an exciting line-up of wound experts. We're especially proud of the article on our new **Foot Health Pathway for People Living with Diabetes**.



## Primary Care Newsletter

Are you a primary care provider? Read the latest primary care provider newsletter here. 

# Stay connected!

## Get on the Wounds Canada mailing list!

To receive notifications, information, invitations and more, send an email to [info@woundscanada.ca](mailto:info@woundscanada.ca).

## Follow us on social media!

### Wounds Canada:

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/woundscanada](https://www.facebook.com/woundscanada)

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